Policy on LPG and kerosene after dismantling APM

†128. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will abolish Administrative Pricing System of petrol and diesel from 1st of April;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the manner in which the prices of petrol and diesel will be decided thereafter; and

(d) the policy regarding Kerosene and domestic LPG?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The Government resolution of 21st November 1997 envisages dismantling of the Administered Pricing Mechanism in the petroleum sector effective 1st April 2002.

(c) and (d) The details are being finalized.

Targeted crude oil production

†129. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of crude oil is not being done as per set target for the past years in the country;

(b) if so, the target and actual production in the years 1998-1999, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001; and

(c) the quantity of target set for production of crude oil during the first nine months of the current year and actual production done during the same period?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) During the period 1998-99 and 1999-2000 there was shortfall in the crude oil production as against the targets. However, in 2000-01 this trend could be reversed. The details in this regard are as given below:—

Year	Production of oil [(Million Metric Tonne (MMT)]	
	Target	Actual
1998-99	34.77	32.70
1999-2000	33.05	31.93
2000-2001	31.96	32.43

(c) As against the target of 24.63 MMT, the actual produ

ction of crude oil in the first nine months (April- Sept.) of the current financial year, 2001-2002 was 24.01 MMT.

Reinstatement of contract engineers

130. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a High Powered Committee has reiterated the reinstatement of all the contract engineers whose services have been terminated on account of foreclosure of contract or otherwise; and

(b) if so, the main recommendations of the High Powered Committee and by when the recommendations of the High Powered Committee are likely to be implemented fully?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTQSh GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Main recommendations of the Committee on